RAJYA SABHA

Monday, the 15th May, 2000/25 Vaisakha, 1922 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock,

MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Funds to the State Governments under Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme (CIBS)

*681. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to provide more funds to State Governments under the Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme (CIBS) for removing infrastructural bottlenecks in export centers;

(b)f if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to improve the prospects of State Government in exports?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) to (c) The budgetary provision for the Critical Infrastructure Balance Scheme has been raised from Rs. 26.86 crores during 1999-2000 to Rs. 33.00 crores during 2000-2001. Under the scheme a sum of Rs. 138.368 crores has been sanctioned since 1996-97 for a total number of 76 projects/works, aimed at strengthening and removal of bottlenecks in exports.

(d) With a view to making export a national effort involving all the State Governments, *inter-alia* a scheme is being formulated for granting assistance

to the States on the basis of their export performance. The details of the scheme are being worked out.

SHRI R. S. GAVAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, what has been the response from the Maharashtra Government regarding providing of different initial infrastructures? This is number one. Number two, out of 76 projects, how many projects belong to the State of Maharashtra? What is the present position and their status?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, for Maharashtra, one is, setting up of a regional trade centre at Pune. The status of this is so far we have released Rs. 5165 lakhs. Then, another one is; strengthening of the Uran-Panvel SH, Maharashtra. The total amount releaded is Rs. 3 lakhs. Another one is computerisation of SEEPZ. The total amount spent is Rs. 1642 lakhs. So, these are the projects in Maharashtra.

SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I specially asked about Maharashtra. As far as the ratio of our exports to the world trade is concerned, it is to the extent of 0.8 per cent. This is rather in a critical position. When we compare our export performance with the Asian countries, we are lagging behind. I personally feel that the Government of India should take the initiative, should take various State Governments into confidence and provide them with necessary funds for their initial infrastructure. With this meagre amount of Rs. 33 crores provided in the budget, it would not be possible for our country to increase our share in the global trade.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I entirely agree with the hon. Member that our share in the global trade is 0.6 per cent, which is very low. This amount is not at all sufficient. Therefore, now, we have embarked upon a new project, taking the State Government also as partners in export promotion.

SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I want to know whether there is any time bound programme fixed for that because, with the meagre provision in the budget, it will not help the country in increasing its share in the global trade. Still we are lagging behind, in terms of the total percentage of global trade. We are not on par with the Asian countries. Is there any time bound programme for this?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this is a national endeavour. We have to create some kind of an export consciousness among the

people, among the States. Therefore, I cannot say that it is an on-going process. We are doing our best. Honourable Members may give their suggestions; we will definitely look into them.

श्री रामदास अग्रवाल: सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि आप जो ऐलोकेशन करते हैं डिफरेंट स्टेट्स को, आपने उसका क्या आधार बनाया हुआ है और उसी आधार पर यदि कोई स्टेट ज्यादा एक्सपोर्ट करती है तो क्या उनको कुछ ज्यादा ऐमाउंट दिया जा सकता है? इसी संदर्भ में मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि राजस्थान जैम स्टोन्स का बहुत बड़ा एक्सपोर्टर है, गारमेंट्स का बहुत बड़ा एक्सपोर्टर है, मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि राजस्थान के लिए इन्होंने कितना ऐलोकेशन किया है?

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, in respect of Rajasthan, recently, we have sanctioned two projects. One; we have provided x-ray machines at the airports, at a cost of Rs. 36 lakhs. We have sanctioned two electronic weighing machines, at a cost of Rs. 30 lakhs. There is no fixed norm. If any State Government approaches that something is needed for their export effort, we provide them the amount. The maximum amount allocated in the Budget is Rs. 30 crores. A Committee is there with the Commerce Secretary as the Chairman of the Committee and with the advice of the Planning Commission, they decide it. We give the critical amount. Just top travel the last mile, we provide the amount.

SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE: Sir, this is a good scheme when, specially, the Government can get advantage by spending less money and getting more returns in terms of the export earnings. For example, just simply providing dedicated electricity supply to Moradabad brass workers, can enhance the turnover considerably in a very short span of time. Examples are many. I would like to say this, specially, in the context of the situation that from 1995-96 onwards, our exports are going down, except the current year. In 1995-96, our export was 20.8 per cent. It came down to 5.6 per cent in the next year. Then it was 4.6 per cent in the following year. In 1998-99, you registered a negative growth of minus five per cent. This year, we expect a growth of around 12 per cent. In the context of the current situation, I would request the hon. Minister to exercise his influence over the Finance Minister to enhance it. It is not a substantial amount now. By getting a little more manoeuvrability, you can provide adequate elbow room to various growth centres which have emerged over the year. A substantial turnover can be achieved by them in a short span of time. Therefore, my suggestion is this. This is not a

question. This is my suggestion to the hon. Minister, to prevail upon the Finance Minister to get a little larger budgetary allocation.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, I thank the hon. Member for his fine suggestion. As he himself knows, people sitting in the Commerce Ministry give all suggestions. When the same people sit in the Finance Minister's chair, they differ. We have seen it previously. He had been in both the seats. It is very good suggestion. I will taken the recommendations to the Finance Minister and try to get more to strengthen my hands. I thank the hon. Member, Sir.

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Sir, it is good that we congratulate the Minister for improving the export chapter. But then, the question was about the steps proposed by the Government to improve the prospects of State Government in exports. That question is not replied to. I would request the Minister to kindly tell us specifically what steps have been proposed and what are in his mind, how the growth centres in States like Uttar Pradesh, where there is a lot of potentiality can grow. Naturally, the amount is so low. With an amount of Rs. 28.86 crores, nothing can be done in this big country. What other steps are there in his mind? After all, the export potentiality has to be not only explored but also as has to be achieved and it has to grow. Here, I would like the Minister to give his views on this issue.

SHRI MURASOLI MARAN: Sir, I thank the hon. Member for this good question. At present, the State Governments are not taking keen interest in the promotion of exports. In fact, they act contrary to it. They tax the inputs for exports because they want income. We cannot blame them also. Creating interest among State Governments in export promotion has been agitating our minds. Finally, this year, we have come out with plan. For example, the States of Tamil Nadu and Kerala are capable of producing and exporting more than a country like Sri Lanka. They have the same people, the same culture. We were one once. But the performance in much more than the combined strength of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Likewise, if you go to the west, let us take West Bengal and Bangladesh. Bangladesh is producing extraordinarily, especially, in textiles. They are actually producing more than West Bengal. Why? They have the same people. Likewise, you take the western coast. Gujarat and Maharashtra, though it is possible, are not exporting as much as Pakistan does. Why? Some States are not taking interest. Therefore, this year, we have embarked on a big plan. Of course, we started very late. The Planning Commission and the Finance

Minister have allocated Rs. 250 crores. Therefore, based on the export promotion, we want to give it to the State Governments, probably, just like the Gadgil formula. Next year or later, we may divide the amount according to the export increment that they contribute to the nation. Sir, this is the beginning of the plan which we are embarking on this year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. 682. .....*(Interruptions)*...

SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Sir, the hon. Minister has left out only the northern States. He has mentioned about the southern States, the eastern States and the western States.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Q. No. 682. ...*(Interruptions)*... *682. ...(Interruptions) 682*

Vocational Training Centres for Tribals

*682. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of TRIBAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total member of adivasis in the country and their population in Orissa;

(b) how many Government-funded vocational training centres in the country have been set up for the tribals; and

(c) the number of vocational training centres for tribals in Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JUAL ORAM): (a) The Scheduled Tribes population in the country, as per 1991 Census, is 67758380 and of Orissa 7032214.

(b) The Government has sanctioned 208 Vocational Training Centres for Scheduled Tribes in the country.

(c) 17 Vocational Training Centres have been sanctioned for tribals in Orissa.

श्री रामचन्द्र खूंटिआ: सभापति महोदय, मंत्री महोदय ने जो उत्तर दिया है, उसमें बताया गया है कि भारत वर्ष में ट्राईबल पापुलेशन 6,77,58,380 है जिनके लिए 208 वोकेशनल ट्रेनिंग सेंटर्स खोले गए हैं और उड़ीसा में 17 ट्रेनिंग सेंटर्स में खोले गए हैं। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि ये जो वोकेशनल ट्रेनिंग सेंटर्स हैं। इन ट्रेनिंग सेंटर में आज तक कितने आदिवासी लड़के और लड़कियों ने ट्रेनिंग ली है? मेरे प्रश्न का दूसरा भाग यह है कि वर्ष 1999-2000 में कितने बजट का ऐलोकेशन इसके लिए हुआ है और उसमें से कितना खर्च हुआ है? मेरे प्रश्न का तीसरा भाग यह है